IN THE CLAIMS:

1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) An antigen composition comprising a fluid fraction of an *E. rhusiopathiae* culture ~~fluid fraction~~ and a stabilizing agent, wherein ~~the~~ said *E. rhusiopathiae* culture is inactivated with beta-propiolactone and ~~the culture~~ said fluid fraction is substantially free of cells of *E. rhusiopathiae*, and wherein the stabilizing agent is a metal hydroxide, a metal phosphate, an aluminum hydroxide gel, a calcium phosphate gel, a zinc hydroxide/calcium hydroxide gel or an alum.

14-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously presented) The antigen composition of Claim 13, wherein the fluid fraction is concentrated 6 to 20 fold.

17. (Currently amended) A vaccine composition comprising:

(1) an antigen composition; and,

(2) an adjuvant composition,

wherein the antigen composition comprises a fluid fraction of an *E. rhusiopathiae* culture ~~fluid fraction~~ and a stabilizing agent, ~~the~~ wherein said *E. rhusiopathiae* culture is inactivated and ~~the culture~~ said fluid fraction is substantially free of cells of *E. rhusiopathiae*; wherein the stabilizing agent is a metal hydroxide, a metal phosphate, an aluminum hydroxide gel, a calcium phosphate gel, a zinc hydroxide/calcium hydroxide gel or an alum, and wherein the adjuvant composition comprises-about 2% v/v lecithin, about 18% v/v mineral oil, and about 8% v/v of an amphiphilic surfactant with the remaining volume being a saline solution, wherein said vaccine composition protects an animal against *E. rhusiopathiae* infection.

18-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently amended) The antigen composition of Claim 13, wherein said stabilizing agent is

aluminum hydroxide gel.

25. (Currently amended) The antigen composition of Claim ~~13~~ 24, wherein said stabilizing agent, aluminum hydroxide gel, is added to the concentrated composition to a final concentration of 30% v/v.

26. (Currently amended) The vaccine composition of Claim 17, wherein said stabilizing agent is aluminum hydroxide gel.

27. (Currently amended) The vaccine composition of Claim ~~17~~ 26, wherein said stabilizing agent, aluminum hydroxide gel, is added to the concentrated composition to a final concentration of 30% v/v.

28-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently amended) A vaccine composition comprising:

(1) an antigen composition; and,

(2) an adjuvant composition,

wherein the antigen composition comprises a fluid fraction of an *E. rhusiopathiae* culture ~~fluid fraction~~ and a stabilizing agent, wherein the stabilizing agent is aluminum hydroxide gel and is present at about 30% v/v in said vaccine composition; wherein the *E. rhusiopathiae* culture is inactivated and the culture fluid fraction is substantially free of cells of *E. rhusiopathiae*; and, wherein the adjuvant composition comprises about 2% v/v lecithin, about 18% v/v mineral oil, and about 8% v/v of an amphiphilic surfactant with the remaining volume being a saline solution, wherein said vaccine composition protects an animal against *E. rhusiopathiae* infection.

31. (Previously presented) The vaccine composition of Claim 30, wherein said composition is stable at 2°C to 8°C for at least one year and provides immunity to weaned pigs for six months.

32. (Previously presented) The vaccine composition of Claim 17 or 30, wherein said *E. rhusiopathiae* culture is inactivated with formalin.

33. (Previously presented) The vaccine composition of Claim 17 or 30, wherein said *E. rhusiopathiae* culture is inactivated with beta-propiolactone.

34-39. (Cancelled)